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THE RAPE OF PAULA

By [Mike Walsh](#)



'Paula,' he sighed as though lost in thought; 'She was born into the most distressing of circumstances and it weighed heavily upon her.'

I wanted to say something but hesitated. I got the impression the old man didn't want his train of thought interrupted. Then, as he absent-mindedly poked the fire's embers my brooding friend found the words he wanted to say.

'Still a child, she had never known what it was to have a full stomach, wear a new dress, or to know happiness. They were hard times for everyone.'

'I imagine,' I smiled sympathetically.

'There was no self-worth, no dignity to life, and no hope. Her family was heavily in debt. Sure, her parents worked hard. To be honest a plantation slave likely lived a better life.'

'Was there any improvement in her situation?' I asked.

'Oh, yes,' the old man brightened up. 'Something happened in Paula's life that changed everything. At nineteen-years of age she was gifted a brooch; upon it a symbol that changed everything. You know, son, she always wore that brooch and swore it brought her good fortune. From that point on she was transformed into the loveliest and liveliest creature imaginable.'

Brimming with confidence she owed not a penny to anyone. Paula had a great job and everything to look forward to.'

'Fantastic,' I murmured.

The old man's shoulders shrunk. 'It didn't last, son. Her success brought her enemies, jealous rivals who would do anything to ruin her, to steal what she had earned.'

'I can't believe it,' I replied but knew my friend was telling the truth.

'Rivals hated her and never missed opportunity to lie about Paula; constantly threatened and tried to harm the young woman.'

'It must have had a terrible effect on her,' I ventured.

The old man smiled. 'Not really. Why should it? She had much more than they had so how could they harm her?'

'But they did?'

'Yes, Paula when 25-years old was ambushed.'

'Robbed?'

'No, far worse than that,' my old friend muttered. 'Paula was very badly hurt. Her home was attacked and plundered, her family ~ well, who knows what happened to her family?'

'You're serious?'

'I am afraid so.'

My friend smiled but bitterness tightened his lips. 'Paula was repeatedly raped, her clothes torn and shredded, her cupboards were laid bare, and her prospects destroyed.'

'The sympathy for her plight must have been overwhelming.'

'On the contrary, her attackers and their accomplices, even those who hadn't benefited from her ruination applauded. Her assailants accused Paula of attacking them and claimed she had it coming to her. The poor girl was denied opportunity to defend herself. You know, all these years on and they still celebrate the Rape of Paula.'

'Paula?'

'Ah, yes, her real name was Germania.'

www.spanglefish.com/historywithoutthespin



Thousands of Germans March to the Border to Protect it from Islamic Invaders

The German resistance is growing by the day. We have already seen over 20,000 regularly showing up in Dresden to emphatically state that Germany is for Germans, but this past weekend saw patriotic Germans in Saxony going to the border to stand up for their folk.

It is estimated that 3,000 activists congregated in the town of Sebnitz, which is right on the German-Czech border, and spread out to form a "living border". Many had signs with Angela Merkel that read "Terrorist Mother" and some wore t-shirts stating "stop asylum tourism". The anti-invasion protesters had people from PEGIDA as well as other "far right" (extremely correct) groups.

Other places in Saxony were alive with German resistance this weekend.

A similar event took place in the district Einsiedel in Chemnitz. Around a thousand people had gathered on Saturday night, according to police, for a "silent march". They objected to a planned Flüchtlingsnotunterkunft [emergency accommodation for refugees] in a former GDR pioneer camp.

Also in eastern Saxony, there was a demonstration in Görlitz late on Saturday under the motto "Görlitz defends itself". Thousands of people came together, according to estimates by observers. A counter-demonstration under the motto "Görlitz Cosmopolitan" had around 500 participants.

Source: [Carolyn Yeager](#)

The German people are waking up and taking their security into their own hands. It is a beautiful thing to behold.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?t=4&v=7arcr5SffVo>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9p55pixMxOM>

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End Times:

Europe Crumbles Under the Devastating Impact of Mass Immigration ...



driven by Talmudic dialectic ...Battle of the Wills exemplified...



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GhKx14mZOEW>

THE HUFFINGTON POST

Kourosh Ziabari, 8 October 2015

The Story of the Iran Deal and the "Scraps of Paper" That Are Gone!

Posted: 08/10/2015 05:10 AEST Updated: 08/10/2015 05:59 AEST

While nearing the end of his first term, the former Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad boldly termed the tough, cruel economic sanctions against Iran as "[scraps of paper](#)", naively advising the world powers to "issue [UNSC] resolutions and rejoice"; however, perhaps few of his advisors had told him that Iran's economy would move to the verge of an all-out collapse because of those "scraps of paper" and that an incredible international isolation would be what befalls the country in a matter of 3, 4 years.

On various occasions, Mr. President ridiculed the sanctions imposed against Iran over its nuclear program, and irritated the Iranians suffering under the brunt of the most rigorous economically punitive measures directed against a sovereign nation in the last 50 years.

On November 17, 2007 during the OPEC leaders summit in Riyadh, he notoriously said, "today, it's impossible to confront even a small island with sanctions, let alone Iran!"

I'm confident Mr. Ahmadinejad knew that the sanctions were wrecking Iran's economy and the burden was

simply borne by the average citizens; however, he didn't want to lose the battle of reputation he had started. He had vowed to advance Iran's nuclear program at any cost. But you know, tying a nation's pride and ideals to the number of centrifuges operating in a nuclear power plant is somewhat outlandish and hard to justify!

Ahmadinejad's failed foreign and nuclear policies paved the way for the coming to power of moderate diplomat and cleric Hassan Rouhani in 2013, who had promised to pursue "constructive engagement" with the international community and a "win-win solution" for the nuclear standoff.

Almost two years after being elected president, Mr. Rouhani delivered his promise, and negotiations over Iran's nuclear file, which his team of diplomats and experts set in motion and spearheaded, were concluded successfully and culminated in an agreement that came to be known as the [Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action](#).

This 159-page document, which is endorsed by the [UN Security Council Resolution 2231](#), sets out certain restrictions on the sensitive parts of Iran's nuclear

program, including an intrusive inspection regime, and stipulates the annulment of economic sanctions placed on Iran. The text of the deal is highly-technical and complicated, but in a nutshell, it says quite a few simple things: there shouldn't be any nuclear weapons in Iran, and consequently, there won't be any economic sanctions on Iran!

The [conclusion](#) of the nuclear agreement was announced on July 14, in the Austrian capital Vienna. In less than 7 hours, and after the Iftar time - it was one of the last days of the holy month of Ramadan - thousands of enthusiastic Iranians, mostly youths and students, [poured into the streets](#), carrying the Iranian flags, pictures of President Rouhani and Foreign Minister Javad Zarif, and banners reading victorious slogans, celebrating one of the biggest diplomatic breakthroughs of the recent times, and an agreement that had brought an end to some 12 years of tension and conflict between Iran and the West.

The [social media pages](#) of Iranian users were soon filled with congratulatory messages, and text messaging services were flooded with happy remarks, good wishes and some satirical references to the "scraps of paper" and "the man who has now gone!"

Iranians were quick in rejoicing at the nuclear agreement, mostly for the fact that such an agreement ensured the termination of the sanctions that had awfully troubled their daily lives and complicated their access to medicine, foodstuff and other basic staples. Moreover, the agreement would mean an opening in Iran's frosty relations with the world nations, and a new beginning for Iran's foreign policy. Beyond that, for thousands of young, ambitious Iranians wishing to travel internationally or study abroad, this agreement had significant implications.

However, there were still people who didn't feel happy with what had made millions of Iranians happy and took them to the streets of Tehran, Isfahan, Shiraz, Mashhad, Zanjan, Tabriz, Kish and other cities for nightly carnivals. The hardliners warned the people against "early celebrations" that would send "erroneous signals of overexcitement" to the "enemy." A number of arch-conservative MPs, newspapers and media outlets downplayed the landmark agreement, rehashing the outworn mantra that an agreement with the "Great Satan" would not be valid.

Today, the Iranians can easily compare the legacy of President Ahmadinejad in his 8-year term and the efficient policies of President Rouhani 2 years after he took office. What President Rouhani has achieved is the elimination of those "scraps papers", a new chapter in not only Iran's diplomatic relations but the global diplomacy and international relations, the peaceful settlement of the corrosive nuclear dispute, the riddance of the specter of a new war in the Middle East and a global competition to win Iran's markets.

During the past two months, the Austrian President [Heinz Fischer](#), the German Economy Minister and Vice Chancellor [Sigmar Gabriel](#), Italian Foreign Minister [Paolo Gentiloni](#), French Foreign Minister [Laurent Fabius](#), British Foreign Secretary [Philip Hammond](#), Dutch Foreign Minister [Bert Koenders](#) and Poland's Deputy Prime Minister [Janusz Piechocinski](#) paid visits to Tehran to discuss the expansion of economic and political relations with Iran.

These visits and exchanges - although routine and uneventful in global diplomacy, are somewhat new and surprising to the Iranian people, as the same leaders who are rushing to Iran to negotiate new trade deals with the Iranian businesspeople would turn away from Ahmadinejad and his administration officials 3, 4 years ago, and would prefer not to set foot on Iran's soil even as a political gesture.

To the detriment of hardliners, Iran is reemerging as a regional power, and it's easily predictable that with another four years in office plus the two intact years he has in hand - unless Ahmadinejad comes up with a new wizardry and wins the 2017 elections, President Rouhani will be able to build a strong and peace-making Iran which nobody will be able to demonize or depict as a threat to world peace and security.



[Kourosh Ziabari](#) Become a fan

Award-winning Iranian journalist and writer covering foreign relations, culture, religion and everything Iran!

Kourosh Ziabari is an award-winning Iranian journalist, writer and media correspondent. He has won three awards in Iran's National Press Festival. He is the recipient of three international journalism fellowships. Kourosh has conducted exclusive interviews with tens of prominent world leaders, politicians, diplomats, academicians, intellectuals, media personalities, authors, scientists and Nobel Prize laureates. A collection of his articles and interviews is available on [his website](#).

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www.huffingtonpost.com/kouroshziabari/the-story-of-iran-deal_b_8246876.html

How Putin outwitted the West

His Syrian intervention has made Obama and Cameron look weak and confused

[Owen Matthews](#), 10 October 2015

Russia was right about Iraq and Libya, and America and Britain were dead wrong. Regime change doesn't seem to have changed Middle Eastern countries for the better, as Vladimir Putin has been warning for years. His policy

is not to support any armed groups 'that attempt to resolve internal problems through force' — by which he means rebels, 'moderate' or otherwise. In his words, the Kremlin always has 'a nasty feeling that if such armed

groups get support from abroad, the situation can end up deadlocked. We never know the true goals of these "freedom fighters" and we are concerned that the region could descend into chaos.'

Yet after a decade and a half of scolding the West for non-UN-sanctioned military interventions, Putin has now unilaterally committed Russian forces to what the former CIA director General David Petraeus calls the 'geopolitical Chernobyl' of Syria. Russia finds itself allied with Syria, Iraq and Iran — a new 'coalition' no less, as Syria's president Bashar al-Assad described it on Iranian state TV last week. How and why did Putin fail to take his own advice about the unintended consequences that breed in middle-eastern quagmires? And most importantly, how has he managed — so far at least — to make Russia's intervention in Syria into something close to a diplomatic triumph?



Saddam Hussein hanged: is Iraq a better place? A safer place? Gaddafi murdered in front of the viewers: is Libya a better place? Now we are demonising Assad. Can we try to draw lessons? — Sergei Lavrov, Russian foreign minister, United Nations, 1 October, 2015

Russia's decisive intervention has left Barack Obama and David Cameron looking weak and confused. When the usually steadfastly patriotic readers of the *New York Daily News* were asked whether Putin or Obama had 'the stronger arguments', 96 per cent said Putin. In Britain even hawks like Sir Max Hastings — no friend of the Kremlin — are arguing that Russia can help beat Isis. And most importantly, Putin stole the show at the United Nations General Assembly last month with an impassioned speech denouncing the whole US-backed project of democracy in the Middle East at its very root.

The Arab Spring has been a catastrophe, Putin argued, and the western countries who encouraged Arab democrats to rise against their corrupt old rulers opened a Pandora's box of troubles. 'Instead of the triumph of democracy and progress, we got violence, poverty and social disaster,' he told assembled delegates, in remarks aimed squarely at the White House. 'Nobody cares about human rights, including the right to life. I cannot help asking those who have forced this situation, do you realise what you have done?' It was quite a sight: a

Russian president taking the moral high ground against an American president — and getting away with it.

It's a message that encapsulates Putin's world-view. Stability and predictability are better than the uncertainties of democracy and revolution — that's been the Kremlin's line ever since a wave of 'colour' revolutions swept away Putin's allies across the former Soviet bloc. When the Arab Spring obliterated Russian buddies Hosni Mubarak in Egypt and Muammar Gaddafi in Libya, he had just the same idea. The Assad family — allies that Putin inherited from the days of Leonid Brezhnev — are simply the last of Moscow's allies left standing in a world turned upside down by people power and its unpredictable consequences. In backing Assad, Putin is pushing back not just against the West and its support for democracy, but against the whole idea of popular revolt against authority.

Putin has emerged from his Syria gamble looking decisive because he at least knows who his allies are — and, no less importantly, who his enemies are. The US and UK, on the other hand, are against almost every major group fighting in Syria. The West opposes not just Assad and his allies (in the form of Lebanese Hezbollah forces and Iranian Revolutionary Guards) but almost every one of his opponents, in the form of Islamic State, the al-Qaeda offshoot Jabhat al-Nusra and Ahrar al-Sham. True, there are a handful of moderate Syrian Sunni opposition groups which have received arms and training from the CIA. In Washington, you still hear fantasies of an 'apolitical, nonsectarian and highly integrated' new Syrian opposition army being sent forth to hold territory against both Assad and the jihadis, creating an inclusive government for all. Just this week David Cameron said he wanted Assad out because he would not be accepted by all Syrians. It is as if he still thinks straightforward regime change is possible. That kind of strategy might have sounded good in 2001 — but it's hard to swallow after the utter collapse of US-trained local forces in Afghanistan, Iraq and Libya.

In Syria the most effective US-backed, anti-Isis troops on the ground are the Kurdish rebels of the YPG — but the US has been powerless to stop its Nato ally Turkey from bombing the YPG in retaliation for a Kurdish insurgency inside Turkey that has little to do with the Syrian civil war. Nor has the US been able to protect two of the Syrian Sunni opposition groups that it backs from Moscow's airstrikes — Russian jets have already hit the front-line positions of Tajammu al-Aza in Talbiseh and Jaish al-Tawhid (part of the Free Syrian Army) on the outskirts of Al-Lataminah. 'On day one, you can say it was a one-time mistake,' a senior US official told the *Wall Street Journal* after an allied rebel group's headquarters was destroyed. 'But on day three and day four, there's no question it's intentional. They know what they're hitting.' Protests by London and Washington have been politely ignored by Russian foreign minister Sergei Lavrov, who speaks of 'fighting terrorism together'.

But it's precisely because Putin has been proved right about the dangers of intervention that his own adventure in Syria is likely to end badly. For one, it's a myth that Assad is the main bulwark against Isis in Syria. According to figures from IHS *Jane's*, only 6 per cent of the Syrian regime army's 982 operations last year were actually directed against Isis. Most of Assad's attacks — including with Scud missiles and the infamous barrel bombs dropped from helicopters on residential areas — targeted

groups that opposed Isis, thereby helping pave the way for Isis to take over Raqqa and the oilfields of northern Syria.

And as Nato found out in Libya, air campaigns can produce unpredictable results. Even with hundreds of thousands of boots on the ground, as the coalition had in Iraq, US commander David Petraeus found that 'you can't kill or capture your way out of an industrial-strength insurgency'.

The Russian operation in Syria is minuscule compared to the vast bases like Camp Victory that Halliburton built for the US military in Iraq, which looked like major airports and boasted full-scale food courts, shopping malls and acres of air-conditioned accommodation. Reports so far show a shipshape but tiny Russian operation, complete with a field bakery, a portable laundry and a single squadron of aircraft as well as some combat helicopters. With this relatively small military force, Putin has achieved remarkable diplomatic leverage — and halted any renewed western attempts to depose Assad. But even the Kremlin cannot believe that Russian air power alone can deliver Assad victory. One senior British diplomat in the region expects the Russian airstrikes to be followed up with an Iranian-led ground offensive — possibly led by Iran's general Qasem Soleimani, who visited Moscow earlier this summer. 'That puts Russian-backed guys in the field into hostile contact with US-backed guys,' says the diplomat. 'That's what we used to call a proxy war.'

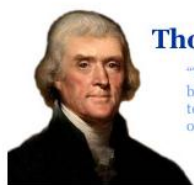
There is also dangerous potential for direct escalation — deliberate or accidental — with Nato too. Russian and Nato planes could be flying in the same skies against different targets with no co-ordinated traffic control. Already a Russian jet has been intercepted by Turkish Air

Force F-16s after allegedly violating Turkish (i.e. Nato) airspace. If Cameron calls for airstrikes on Syria — and the body language from Westminster suggests that a parliamentary vote is in prospect — then this should give his MPs pause. Why send the RAF into this mess, and risk entanglement with Russia and a far wider conflagration?

Putin's intervention has certainly cast Assad a lifeline. Russian TV regularly shows images of happy Syrians watching Putin on the television with rapt attention, or waving Russian flags. But it may end up prolonging the war, since the Russian deployment has put paid to western plans for a no-fly zone to protect civilians in built-up areas. Assad will doubtless now attempt the impossible — recapturing the 80 per cent of Syria that he has lost since the beginning of the insurgency that has cost 220,000 lives so far. So Russia's intervention may, ironically, end up strengthening the hand of Isis and other Sunni extremists who see Assad's Alawite sect as apostates, who are now backed not only by Shia Iranians but Russian Orthodox infidels too.

But fundamentally, Putin is much more interested in being seen to project Russian power than in fixing Syria's war. His aim is to hold up Britain and America as paper tigers whose indecision has created a policy vacuum on Syria, into which Putin has confidently stepped. The Russian operation is small and portable enough for Putin to be able to roll it up in a week — and declare victory if and when the going gets tough. That, as he knows, is more than Britain and America have been able to do in any of our recent wars.

<http://new.spectator.couk/2015/10/how-putin-outwitted-the-west/>



Thomas Jefferson

"The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants."

Unique News

THE NEW OBSERVER

Unique Views

George Washington

"If the freedom of speech is taken away then dumb and silent we may be led, like sheep to the slaughter."



Third World Invasion: Eyewitness Description, September 5, 2015

September 6, 2015 by [TNO Staff—](#) in [Europe](#)

An eye-witness account from [Kamil Bulonis, a Polish travel blog writer](#), who was present on the Italian-Austrian border on September 5, 2015, as swarms of Third World nonwhites poured across the border to invade Austria and Germany (A translation from Polish): (Please note: all pictures from the Hungarian-Austrian border)



"Half an hour ago on the border between Italy and Austria I saw with my own eyes a great many immigrants ...

With all solidarity with people in difficult circumstances I have to say that what I saw arouses horror ... This huge mass of people – sorry, that I'll write this – but these are absolute savages ... Vulgar, throwing bottles, shouting loudly "We want to Germany!" – and is Germany a paradise now?

I saw how they surrounded a car of an elderly Italian woman, pulled her by her hair out of the car and wanted to drive away in the car. They tried to overturn the bus in I travelled myself with a group of others. They were throwing faeces at us, banging on the doors to force the driver to open them, spat at the windscreen ... I ask for what purpose? How is this savagery to assimilate in Germany?

I felt for a moment like in a war ... I really feel sorry for these people, but if they reached Poland – I do not think that they would get any understanding from us ... We were waiting three hours at the border which ultimately could not cross.

Our whole group was transported back to Italy in a police-cordon. The bus is damaged, covered with faeces, scratched, with broken windows. And this is supposed to be an idea for demographics? These big powerful hordes of savages?

Among them there were virtually no women, no children—the vast majority were aggressive young men ... Just yesterday, while reading about them on all the websites I subconsciously felt compassion, worried about their fate but today after what I saw I am just afraid and yet I am happy that they did not choose our country as their destination. We Poles are simply not ready to accept these people – neither culturally nor financially. I do not know if anyone is ready. To the EU a pathology is marching which we had not yet a chance to ever see, and I am sorry if anyone gets offended by his entry ... I can add that cars arrived with humanitarian aid – mainly food and water and they were just overturning those cars ...

Through megaphones the Austrians announced that there is permission for them to cross the border—they wanted to register them and let them go on—but they did not understand these messages. They did not understand anything.

And this was the greatest horror ... For among those few thousand people nobody understood Italian or English, or German, or Russian, or Spanish ... What mattered was fist law... They fought for permission to move on and they had this permission— but did not realize that they had it!

They opened the luggage hatches of a French bus—and everything that was inside was stolen within short time, some things left lying on the ground ...

Never in my short life had I an opportunity to see such scenes and I feel that this is just the beginning."



<http://newobserveronline.com/third-world-invasion-eye-witness-description-september-5-2015/>

Maisoon ميسون

**All truth passes through three stages.
First, it is ridiculed. Second, it is violently opposed.
Third, it is accepted as being self-evident."
- Arthur Schopenhauer**

<http://www.intifada-palestine.com>

<http://www.palestine-info.co.uk>

<http://occupiedpalestine.wordpress.com>

<http://uprootedpalestinians.blogspot.com>

<http://www.almanar.com.lb/english/main.php>

<http://www.ramzybaroud.net>

<http://www.middleeasteye.net>

<http://alethonews.wordpress.com>

<http://theuglytruth.wordpress.com>

<http://www.ascertainthetruth.com>

<http://www.presstv.ir>

<http://rehmat1.com>

I cannot help but worry about the many innocent civilians caught up in all these bombings and attacks from all sides because not all civilians I fear managed to leave but are trapped there. I pray for their safety.

[Russian and Syrian airstrikes continue, more casualties and losses among terrorist organizations' ranks](#)

Provinces, SANA – The army operations going on in various areas and provinces are resulting in more deaths within the terrorist organization's ranks, with the army units striking hard on terrorists' positions, destroying also their heavy armaments and equipment, as Russia ramped up the military campaign against ISIS positions in the country.

A military source confirmed that ISIS had suffered heavy losses in missile strikes launched by Russia's naval fleet in the Caspian Sea against 11 of its positions in Syria.

[Russia ready to consider anti-Daesh operation in Iraq: Parliament speaker](#)

Russia says it would consider an airborne operation against Daesh Takfiri terrorists in Iraq if it receives a formal request from the Arab country's authorities for conducting such a military campaign.

"In case of an official address from Iraq to the Russian Federation, the leaders of our country would study the political and military expediency of our air force's participation in an air operation. Presently we have not

received such an address," Valentina Matviyenko, the Russian Federation Council speaker, told reporters during an official visit to Jordan on Tuesday, RT reported.

How Putin will Win in Syria

The reason Putin will succeed where the US failed in its war on ISIS, is because the Russian air-strikes are going to be accompanied by a formidable mop-up operation that will overpower the jihadi groups on the ground. This is already happening as we speak.

There's an extraordinary article by author Aron Lund of the Carnegie Endowment titled "Putin's Plan: What Will Russia Bomb in Syria?" What's so interesting about the piece is that it was published on September 23, a full week before Russia entered the war, and yet, Lund seems to have anticipated Putin's actual battle plan. Military geeks

Has Russia Declared A "No-Float Zone" In Syria?

By Brandon Turbeville

While brazen psychopaths like Hillary Clinton and warmongers like Marco Rubio call for a No-Fly Zone in Syria, it appears that Russia has declared a "No-Go Zone" of its own. The Russian version, however, consists of a "No-Float Zone" and is located off the coast of Syria...

Syrian army launched a ground offensive, Putin sent a SWAT to catch the leaders ISIS

An official who insisted on anonymity, said that the operations taking place in the neighboring provinces of Hama and Idlib. The activists said that the Syrian army, backed by Russian air strikes today led the fight against the rebels in central Syria, as the first major land battle since Moscow began bombing the positions of extremists last week.

Russia attacks from the air looks have encouraged the Syrian army to launch a ground offensive after a series of defeats in northwest Syria in recent months, according to the AP.

Russian air strikes destroyed the main warehouse of weapons, with which the US is practiced by rebel groups in Syria, said the commander of the rebel group. Group Liva Sukvor al Jabal whose fighters attended military training and organization of the CIA in Saudi Arabia, also last week was hit by Russian bombs, because it was a sign of support to Damascus, Reuters reported.

Syria: Assad's ground troops launch offensive against IS in Hama and Idlib

Syrian troops loyal to President Bashar al-Assad launched a ground offensive amid Russian airstrikes in the provinces of Hama and Idlib in western Syria targeting members of the so-called Islamic State (IS, formerly ISIS/ISIL), Wednesday. It is the first major ground fighting since Russian authorities began launching air strikes on IS militias on September 30.

BREAKING VIDEO: Russian warships attack ISIS positions in Syria from Caspian Sea

Caspian Flotilla ships fire 26 cruise missiles on IS targets in Syria — Defense Minister

"Intensive work of different intelligence services over the last two days has made it possible to detect a large number of various IS facilities - command posts, ammunition depots, military equipment depots, training camps of militants. This morning, the Caspian Flotilla warships were involved in the operation against them, in

addition to the aircraft. Four missile ships have launched 26 cruise missiles on 11 targets. According to the objective control data, all the targets have been destroyed, and no civilian facilities have been hit," Shoigu said. "The strike results have confirmed the missiles' high long-range efficiency - at distances of nearly 1,500 km," the minister said. Russia agreed with partners in advance on cruise missile strikes on IS militants in Syria <http://tass.ru/en/defense/826967>

(VIDEO)

How and Why Russia Launched Its Cruise Missiles Against ISIS

The missiles would have been the long range subsonic land attack version of the Klub cruise missile family. The Klub family is a modular family of different cruise missiles tasked for different roles depending on their motors and guidance systems. Some members of this family of missiles are used for attacking surface warships, and others for attacking submarines. Those that are used to attack surface warships typically skim close to the sea, but have a supersonic terminal phase. Those used to attack submarines are short range, sometimes supersonic, and launch a light anti-submarine torpedo into the sea near the point where the submarine has been spotted. The land attack version of the Klub used in this attack uses a combination of inertial and satellite guidance and in order to achieve a longer range (up to 2,500 km is claimed) uses a turbojet as opposed to a rocket engine to fly subsonically at Mach 0.8.

Middle East Tensions Rise as Russia Begins Destroying ISIS

BEX ALERT - War crimes ambassador: Russia, al-Assad regime vulnerable to prosecution

Members of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's regime could be prosecuted in national courts outside Syria -- and Russia could be vulnerable to prosecution for backing them -- a long-time American war crimes official told CNN's Christiane Amanpour on Tuesday.

"These are men, women, and children tortured to death, eyes gouged out, etc. That is not the way that you build the future of Syria," said Stephen Rapp, who until August had served for six years as the U.S. State Department's ambassador-at-large for war crimes issues.

WRH.COM Webmaster's Commentary:

So, the US once again justifies illegal intervention into other countries with claims that Assad is a "bad guy", brought to you by the same people who insisted Saddam had nuclear weapons, that there were torpedoes in the Gulf of Tonkin, that there was a Spanish mine in Havana harbor and that the Lusitania wasn't carrying weapons (all of which have been exposed as lies, for those of you not paying attention.)

But the US does not have moral authority to judge other nations, not with gassing a church full of women and children in Waco Texas in 1993 with a poison gas that is banned for use in war, or the use of torture, or the US police murdering more innocent Americans than either terrorists or mass shooters. On the basis of the use of torture and police brutality, does Germany have a right so supply guns and ammunition to the protesters in Ferguson? According to the logic of the US Government, they do!

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China To Join Russian Air Strikes

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'We don't want Syria to be terrorist black hole, let us deal with ISIS'—Russia's Foreign Ministry

The official spokeswoman for Russia's Foreign Ministry Maria Zakharova is addressing a number of issues, including Moscow's airstrike campaign in Syria.

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Russia offers to reopen military talks with Pentagon over Syrian airstrikes

Russia offered Tuesday to resume talks with the United States on managing separate airstrike operations in Syria, even as the former Cold War foes bicker over Moscow's objectives in the civil war.

The Russian opening for more military-to-military dialogue was welcomed by the Pentagon after urgent appeals for the Kremlin to keep open channels to discuss its widening air campaign in Syria and ways to avoid possible conflicts.

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Jewish media

Russia says in principle agrees with U.S. proposals to coordinate Syria flights:

The Russian military in principle agrees with proposals made by the United States on coordinating military flights in Syria, TASS news agency reported on Tuesday, citing Deputy Defence Minister Anatoly Antonov.

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/2015/10/06/uk-mideast-crisis-syria-russia-strikes-uk-ukKCN0S01EJ20151006>

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Russia Seeks New, Broader Military Talks With US on Syria Strikes

Russia has formally offered a new round of "deconfliction" talks with the US on their respective wars against ISIS in Syria, aimed at preventing the risk of conflicts between the two nations' warplanes as they both operate in the same area against the same forces.

Russia suggested the new talks should be broader than previous discussions, and that they were open to making deals to ensure that the two nations don't have any "midair mishaps" or serious risk of confrontation.

Defense Secretary Ash Carter responded by condemning Russia, saying that their recent violation of Turkish airspace during an anti-ISIS sortie justified the US to "further strengthen our posture" against Russia, though he did suggest that the talks may well happen.

Ex-British Ambassador a Pariah in Western Circles for Making Sense About Russia

Former UK ambassador slams anti-Russian sanctions along with Western policies in Ukraine and Syria.

=====

Obama Boots Syrian Peace Chance

President Barack Obama is turning his back on possibly the last best chance to resolve the bloody Syrian war because he fears a backlash from Official Washington's powerful coalition of neoconservatives and "liberal interventionists" along with their foreign fellow-travelers: Israel, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and other Gulf sheikdoms.

=====

Obama Arms ISIS-Linked Militants, Pushes Gun Control On Very Same Day

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Russian Embassy Trolls Saudi Arabia On Twitter

As regular readers and foreign policy critics the world over are no doubt acutely aware, the US, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and Turkey have gotten themselves in a bit of a quagmire in Syria and Moscow has been keen on pointing it out. Still, The Kremlin has thus far observed some semblance (and we do emphasize the word "some") of decorum in criticizing the West's approach as Moscow has generally confined its scolding to what at least seem like serious foreign policy critiques. That just went out the window - Russia is now openly mocking Riyadh, Doha, and Washington and as if the following weren't brazen enough as it stands, note that it emanates from the UAE...

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Must see analysis on Syria!!! -by Russian Colonel

Alexander Zhilin, Colonel in the army and military expert of the Russian Federation, explains in layman's terms Russia's national interests in supporting Assad.

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What Does Russia Want in Syria?

By Tony Cartalucci

Russia is not building an empire, it seeks to stop one that threatens its existence.

<http://www.informationclearinghouse.info/article43063.htm>

=====

Let us hope we don't get any Jewish Russian Infiltrators among these volunteers

RUSSIAN VOLUNTEER FORCES STEP UP TO FIGHT IN SYRIA

=====

Russia hits ISIS targets in Aleppo:

Russian strikes destroyed 20 vehicles and three weapons depots in ISIS-held Palmyra. In Aleppo, they hit the towns of Al-Bab and Deir Hafer, about 20 km (10 miles) east of a military airport currently besieged by ISIS fighters, according to the report.

<http://dailystar.com.lb/News/Middle-East/2015/Oct-06/317858-russia-jets-strike-isis-held-palmyra-syria-tv.ashx>

=====

Russian air base in Syria protects "Krasnuha-4" - blinding everything in the range of at least 300 kilometers

Here is a new headache for Americans and their allies in Syria.

Russian Armed Forces have shifted to Syria at least one of its modern system for radio-electronic fight "Krasuha-4" 1RL257. "The last word" of Russian high technologies in this field.

"Krasuha-4" is placed near the Russian air base in Latakia, where Airplanes who beat bases, depots, command posts and positions of the Islamic state. Although it does not shoot, "Krasnuha-4" is considered a "terrible weapon" for all enemy planes, helicopters and missiles. It does not shoot them but - makes them "blind and deaf".

Specifications of "Krasuha-4" are one of the most important Russian military secrets. What is known is that the radius of its activities "more than 300 kilometers." How much: no one knows ...

=====

Syrians increasingly sceptical of Turkey's promised actions:

A statement from the Turkish foreign ministry regarding the strikes mentioned the fight against ISIL as a "priority" for Turkey. But there have been few Turkish air

strikes against ISIL since and few visible moves to create the ISIL-free zone.

<http://www.thenational.ae/world/europe/syrians-increasingly-sceptical-of-turkeys-promised-actions>

Question of 3rd intifada West Bank: State of Emergency

<http://www.intifada-palestine.com>
<http://www.palestine-info.co.uk>
<http://occupiedpalestine.wordpress.com>
<http://uprootedpalestinians.blogspot.com>
<http://theuglytruth.wordpress.com>

The question of the third intifada

By: Elias

Israel has closed every window of hope for the Palestinian people; there are currently no portals leading to a brighter future. All the pathways to freedom and independence for a viable future state have been blocked

West Bank violence flares, hundreds of Palestinians clash with Israeli forces

Severe clashes between Palestinians and Israeli forces in multiple parts of the West Bank follow the deaths of three Palestinian teenagers in the past days.

ARE WE ON THE VERGE OF A NEW INTIFADA?

It is amply clear that the chances for a new intifada are now greater than ever before in light of the deep anger and indignation generated among most Palestinians by Israeli provocations and crimes.

Shot dead in a school uniform

It is not unusual to see youth from the Aida refugee camp in Bethlehem fight with the Israeli forces of occupation. But the clashes which followed Israel's slaying of 13-year-old Abdulrahman Shadi Obeidallah — or Abdo, as he was affectionately known — were among the fiercest that residents have seen in recent years.

For hours after Abdo's funeral procession on Tuesday, anyone entering the camp had to wade through clouds of tear gas that had been fired by Israeli soldiers. Young locals, many of whom knew Abdo personally, could be seen gathering rocks and tires in preparation for another riot.

The sense of collective grief and rage is always palpable when a Palestinian is martyred. Nowhere is this more so than in refugee camps, where communities are bound together in resistance and by the desire of returning to homes from which they were expelled.

ISRAELI JEWS ARE STATE SANCTIONED KILLERS WHO SADISTICALLY ENJOY TORTURING AND KILLING PALESTINIAN WOMEN and CHILDREN, their FAVOURED TARGETS. ISRAELI JEWS ARE COWARDS who hide behind their Weapons, tanks, bulldozers and their Terrorist Government. and its Western Allies. they are what Christ, pbuh, said they were:

J: "You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a mur-derer from the beginning, not

holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies." (John 8:43-44) 'a brood of vipers'

The worst thing about shooting kids is they are faster and smaller than the old women. It takes more bullets to hit them."

Israeli soldiers reply when asked why they shoot children

shot by an ISRAELI SETTLER PSYCHOPATH EXTREMIST, you know the ones they like to call 'Orthodox', Right Wing Likudnic Variety- not a 'JUDAIST' or TALMUDIST, TERRORIST, MILITANT, INSURGENT, ONLY 'ORTHODOX'- the same psychopathic SCUM that are represented in the video below

"children have been shot on other conflicts I have covered, but never before have I watched as soldiers enticed children like mice into a trap and murdered them for SPORT"!!!-Christopher Hedges, American Journalist on assignment in Gaza.

Never trust an Israeli, an Arab Jew, -NEVER- look at their bestial actions here, including their moral soldiers! This is the TRUE FACE of Jews in Israel

Undercover Israeli police attack Palestinian protesters
<http://www.presstv.ir/Detail/2015/10/08/432464/Palestine-Israel-Ramallah-Beit-El-undercover-alAqsa-alQuds-West-Bank>

'It's simple: either condemn Israel's actions or embrace your identity as someone who's okay with the wholesale slaughter of children.'

'Only Israel can murder around 300 children in the span of a few weeks and insist that it is the victim.'

'It's quite simple, really: don't support any ideology whose practice results in dead children [Salaita]

Does Free Speech Have a Palestine Exception? Dismissed Professor Steven Salaita Speaks Out

A new report by the Center for Constitutional Rights and Palestine Legal has documented hundreds of cases of Palestinian rights activists in the United States being harassed, disciplined, fired, sued, censored or threatened for their advocacy around Palestine.

Israel, the Neocons, and their Bloody, Blundering 'Art' of War

By: Elias

The West has indeed adopted the neocons/Israeli strategy, precipitating the "chaotic collapse" of secular-Arab nationalism in Iraq, Libya, and Syria. But the chaos has not been "contained and managed

That is not true, ISRAEL does have a motto=- its MOSSAD motto- by way of deception, thou shalt do war

Seize the Chaos: Israel, the Neocons, and their Bloody, Blundering 'Art' of War

Israel lacks a national motto. If its leaders are looking for a Latin one, "carpe chaos" would be an apt and honest choice.

"Seize the chaos" is half of Israeli foreign policy in a nutshell (the other half being the instigation of that chaos in the first place). Indeed, even its friends in the media cannot help but put it in such terms. For example, The New York Times recently reported about the:

...many Israeli leaders and thinkers seizing on the chaos in Syria to solidify Israel's hold on Golan.

This refers to the Golan Heights, which Israel captured from Syria in 1967 and has occupied ever since. Even the Israel-enabling United Nations considers that occupation and subsequent annexation to be unjust and illegal. Returning Golan to Syria has long been advanced as part of a potential peace deal.

=====

Netanyahu 'Better Not Disturb The Status Quo'
By Jonathan Cook

Israel's crackdown on Palestinian unrest threatens to topple Abbas. -

<http://www.informationclearinghouse.info/article43062.htm>

Listen: Why new Israel lobby smears are "good news" for activists

Last week, Palestine Legal and the Center for Constitutional Rights released a detailed report on the escalation of tactics deployed by Israel lobby groups to smear and derail Palestine solidarity activism on US campuses.

These include targeting students and faculty with false accusations of terrorism or anti-Semitism, threats of legal complaints and administrative disciplinary actions. Flush with new injections of cash from right-wing Israel supporters, including billionaire Republican Party donor Sheldon Adelson, lawyers and students are bracing for "dirtier tactics" to spread across US campuses in the coming school year.

Israel lobby groups explicitly aim to crush student-organized boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS) campaigns, which have been steadily gaining victories in university settings.

Students say that these silencing attempts reveal that Palestinian rights organizing is having an irreversible impact as it becomes more mainstream.

Government Press Office warns BBC over headline

Head of the Government Press Office Nitzan Hen on Sunday sent a harshly worded letter to the BBC in which he threatened the network with sanctions.

Hen's letter to Richard Palmer, the head of the BBC bureau in Israel, was sent after the network published a headline that read "Palestinian shot dead after Jerusalem attack kills two."

[a factual headline but it seems that is totally irrelevant from Israel's point of view!]

Date: Tue, 6 Oct 2015 07:40:49 -0400

From: london@foa.org.uk

Subject: West Bank: State of Emergency



The Palestine Red Crescent Society has declared a level 3 state of emergency in the West Bank and East Jerusalem in response to increased attacks by Israeli soldiers and illegal settlers against Palestinians.

Media attention has focused on the West Bank and East Jerusalem following the killing of three Israeli settlers. The Palestinian perpetrators in these cases were all shot dead by the Israeli army. The context of these deaths is the wider violence which has engulfed the region, bringing simmering tensions to the surface. The number of Palestinians murdered by the Israeli army or extremist settlers since 2015 began stands at over 40. Where there is video and/or photographic evidence of the killings, they challenge the official Israeli narrative in almost every instance.

Israel's impunity

Palestinian deaths only draw cursory investigations, and there is rarely if ever an arrest or prosecution. Israeli deaths similarly draw no prosecution, as the suspected perpetrators are usually shot dead. Even those who have not committed a crime, such as 18-year-old, Hadeel al-Hashlamoun, have been murdered in cold blood. Amnesty international have called Hadeel's murder an extrajudicial execution, yet none of the perpetrators have been brought to justice. Palestinians are unlikely to see any due process or justice while they continue to live under an apartheid occupation regime.

[Read More](#)

Some useful quotes I compiled

Menechem Begin - 1977-1983 - :

"Our race (the Jews) is the Master Race. We are divine gods on this planet. We are as different from the inferior races as they are from insects. In fact, compared to our race, other races are beasts and animals, cattle at best. Other races are considered as human excrement. Our

destiny is to rule over the inferior races. Our earthly kingdom will be ruled by our leader with a rod of iron. The masses will lick our feet and serve us as our slaves."

*

We must use terror, assassination, intimidation, land confiscation, and the cutting of all social services to rid the Galilee of its Arab population." **Israel Koenig**, "The Koenig Memorandum"

*

Ben Gurion: In 1899, Davis Triestsch wrote to Herzl: "I would suggest to you to come round in time to the "Greater Palestine" program before it is too late... the Basle program must contain the words "Great Palestine" or "Palestine and its neighboring lands" otherwise it's nonsense. You do not get ten million Jews into a land of 25,000 Km2". "The present map of Palestine was drawn by the British mandate. The Jewish people have another map which our youth and adults should strive to fulfill -- From the Nile to the Euphrates."

*

Vladimir Jabotinsky (the founder and advocate of the Zionist terrorist organizations), Quoted by Maxime Rodinson in *Peuple Juif ou Problem Juif*. (Jewish People or Jewish Problem): "Has any People ever been seen to give up their territory of their own free will? In the same way, the Arabs of Palestine will not renounce their sovereignty without violence."

*

"Jewish villages were built in the place of Arab villages. You do not even know the names of these Arab villages, and I do not blame you because geography books no longer exist. Not only do the books not exist, the Arab villages are not there either. Nahlal arose in the place of Mahlul; Kibbutz Gvat in the place of Jibta; Kibbutz Sarid in the place of Huneifis; and Kefar Yehushua in the place of Tal al-Shuman. There is not a single place built in this country that did not have a former Arab population."

Moshe Dayan, address to the Technion, Haifa, reported in Haaretz, April 4, 1969.

*

"We walked outside, Ben-Gurion accompanying us. Allon repeated his question, 'What is to be done with the Palestinian population?' Ben-Gurion waved his hand in a gesture which said 'Drive them out!'" **Yitzhak Rabin**, leaked censored version of Rabin memoirs, published in the New York Times, 23 October 1979.

*

Martin Buber, Jewish Philosopher, addressed Prime Minister Ben Gurion on the moral character of the state of Israel with reference to the Arab refugees in March 1949. "We will have to face the reality that Israel is neither innocent, nor redemptive. And that in its creation, and expansion; we as Jews, have caused what we historically have suffered; a refugee population in Diaspora."

*

Rabbi Grama: "The difference between the people of Israel and the nations of the world is an essential one. The Jew by his source and in his very essence is entirely good. The goy, by his source and his very essence is completely evil. This is not simply a matter of religious

distinction, but rather of two completely different species."

*

"The State of Israel must invent dangers and to do this, it must adopt the methods of provocation and revenge... And above all, let us hope for a new war with the Arab countries so that we may finally get rid of our troubles and acquire our space" - from the diary of **Moshe Sharett**, Israel's first Foreign Minister and Prime Minister 1948-1956,

*

HOLY WORDS OF A RABID LUCIFERIAN RABBI
Rabbi Yitzhak Shapira urges killing the Palestinian children:

"In any situation in which a non-Jew's presence endangers Jewish lives, the non-Jew may be killed even if he is a righteous Gentile and not at all guilty for the situation that has been created...When a non-Jew assists a murderer of Jews and causes the death of one, he may be killed, and in any case where a non-Jew's presence causes danger to Jews, the non-Jew may be killed...The [Din Rodef] dispensation applies even when the pursuer is not threatening to kill directly, but only indirectly.... **There is justification for killing babies if it is clear that they will grow up to harm us**, and in such a situation they may be harmed deliberately, and not only during combat with adults."

*

Theodor Herzl: "It is essential that the sufferings of Jews... become worse. . . this will assist in realization of our plans. . . I have an excellent idea. . . I shall induce anti-Semites to liquidate Jewish wealth. . . The anti-Semites will assist us thereby in that they will strengthen the persecution and oppression of Jews. The anti-Semites shall be our best friends".

This quote was at JewsAgainstZionism - they change their quotes daily.

*

AND SOME OF YOU WANT ME TO SEE THESE PEOPLE AS MY 'BROTHERS AND SISTERS', A PART OF OUR GOD CREATED HUMANITY?? HOW MANY OF YOU HAVE DARED TO AIR SUCH COMMENTS ON MEDIA CHANNELS. I HAVE PLENTY MORE THAT SHOWS WHAT EVIL BEINGS ISRAELIS/JEWS REALLY ARE. BUT YOU PREFER TO AIR ALL THE ISLAMOPHOBIC, ANTI ISLAM RHETORIC/HATRED SPEWED IN WESTERN CIRCLES AGAINST MY MUSLIM AND ARAB FAMILY, ALWAYS EAGER TO PROTECT THE JEWISH SENSITIVITIES BECAUSE OF THEIR PHONY MYTH- THEIR HOLOHOAX THAT HAD DUPED EUROPEANS AND SOME ARABS FOR DECADES.

PALESTINIANS PAYING THE ULTIMATE PRICE AND SACRIFICE FOR WESTERN/EUROPEAN COLONIALIST POLICIES AND RACIST IDEOLOGIES THAT IRONICALLY THEY INHERITED FROM THE RACIST SUPREMACIST JEWS. WE ARE DYING IN OUR HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS, NOT YOU.

WE ARE LIVING THROUGH A REAL HOLOCAUST, A HELL ON EARTH, TORTURED, TRAUMATISED, TERRORISED, BOMBED, MUTILATED,- ONE LIVING PERPETUAL BLOOD STAINED CEMETERY COURTESY OF ISRAEL AND WORLD JEWRY.

**University Lecture featuring Holocaust scholar
Deborah Lipstadt to be held Oct. 22**

Camie Williams, October 7, 2015



**Deborah Lipstadt
Please Join Us**

**University Lecture: Deborah Lipstadt
Thursday, Oct 22 2015 3:30 pm**

Athens, Ga. - Deborah Lipstadt, one of the world's leading scholars on modern Jewish history, will present a University Lecture Oct. 22 at 3:30 p.m. in the University of Georgia Chapel.

Lipstadt is the Dorot Professor of Modern Jewish History and Holocaust Studies at Emory University. Her lecture, which is free and open to the public, is titled "The Holocaust: An American Understanding 1945-2015" and has been named one of UGA's Fall 2015 Signature Lectures.

"Dr. Lipstadt's visit to the University of Georgia reflects this institution's commitment to creating a learning environment that extends beyond the classroom walls,"

said Pamela Whitten, senior vice president for academic affairs and provost. "She is an inspiring scholar and one of the world's leading voices against anti-Semitism and other forms of religious intolerance."

Lipstadt is the author of several critically acclaimed books, including "Denying the Holocaust: The Growing Assault on Truth" and "Memory and The Eichmann Trial." A BBC film adaptation of her award-winning 2006 book, "History on Trial: My Day in Court with a Holocaust Denier," is currently in development. The film, with a screenplay by Oscar-nominated playwright David Hare, depicts the story of Lipstadt's libel trial in London against David Irving, who sued her for calling him a Holocaust denier and right-wing extremist.

Presidents Clinton and Obama appointed Lipstadt to successive terms on the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council. At Emory, she created the Institute for Jewish Studies and was its first director from 1998 to 2008. She is currently writing a book on contemporary anti-Semitism.

University Lectures are sponsored by the Office of the President and the Office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost.

<http://news.uga.edu/releases/article/university-lecture-deborah-lipstadt-1015/>

Dutch politician copies our tough border message

Malcolm Turnbull's government is running scared from the freedom to offend



Paul Sheehan, Sydney Morning Herald columnist, October 7, 2015 - 9:00PM

The government is playing a game with an elected democrat who could become the next prime minister of the Netherlands.

The Liberal-led federal government is illiberal in its attitudes towards freedom of speech. Switching the leadership from Tony Abbott to Malcolm Turnbull has changed nothing.

Following a string of bans against people who have committed no crime but have offended certain sensibilities, the government is playing a game with an elected democrat, Geert Wilders, who could become the next prime minister of the Netherlands.

In the latest Dutch opinion polls, the party that Wilders founded and leads, the Party for Freedom (PVV), polled 33.5 per cent primary support, far more than the next closest party, which had 20 per cent.

Given that conservative parties polled a combined 79 per cent of the vote in the most recent national poll, and given the ructions in Europe over large-scale Muslim immigration, which Wilders opposes, he is now credibly positioned to lead a coalition government after the next election.

Wilders has no criminal record. He campaigns against violence, intimidation and religious intolerance.

Two months after applying for a visa, Wilders is still being kept waiting. His application went to the Australian embassy in The Hague, where the ambassador is a former Liberal senator, Dr Brett Mason.

Wilders is due to speak in Perth on October 20 at the launch of a new political party, the Australian Liberty Alliance.



Anti-immigration politician Geert Wilders, leader of the Dutch Party for Freedom. Photo: AP

It normally takes no more than 48 hours to obtain a visa to Australia for Dutch citizens. Four members of Dutch security have already travelled to Perth to check security for Wilders' visit, because he now lives under 24-hour police protection as a result of his criticisms of the Koran.

The Turnbull government's disdain towards Wilders is already giving oxygen to the incipient grassroots base of the Australian Liberty Alliance, which is an outgrowth of the Q Society, led by Debbie Robinson. She told me the traffic on the new Australian Liberty Alliance website has gone from 38,000 hits a week to more than 800,000.

Wilders is denounced on the Left as a far-Right conservative because he regards Islam as hostile to the bedrock western liberal ideals of democracy, pluralism, feminism, political secularism and gay rights.

The Turnbull government's game with Wilders is an exact re-run of what happened under the previous Labor government, which had a self-immolating record on immigration and border security.

Late in 2012, with Wilders scheduled to visit Australia, the then minister for immigration, Chris Bowen, sat on his visa application for two months before it was granted, after much

public criticism. No such delay hindered the visit of Taji Mustafa, a spokesman for Hizb ut-Tahrir, an apologist group for jihad. The re-run of this visa game with Wilders fits a pattern of the Coalition government since it took control of government two years ago.

Among its election undertakings was a commitment to narrow Section 18c of the Racial Discrimination Act, which extends the law against racial vilification to language which "offends". This is an absurdly broad term to insert in any law.

The Abbott government reneged on that undertaking, no surprise given that it then enacted a suite of national security laws which gave government sweeping power to clamp down on free speech while diminishing its obligations for transparency. The classic liberal ideal of Voltaire - that he may be offended by your views but will defend your freedom to express them - is alien to this government.

On September 29, an American anti-abortion activist, Troy Newman, [was deported](#) after he arrived after his visa had been terminated. Newman has never been convicted of a criminal offence. He believes abortion is murder, a widely-held position in the US.

On September 28, the Turnbull government also [denied a visa to American rap star Chris Brown](#), because he was convicted six

years ago of serious domestic violence charges, for which he was placed on five years probation, which he has served.

In November 2014, the Abbott government [cancelled the visa of an American self-styled dating coach Julien Blanc](#), after a campaign against him on social media. His views are objectionable but his seminars are voluntary and he has no criminal record.

Far from embracing Voltaire, this government shrinks at the first sign of social media grapeshot.

***A video of controversial Dutch politician Geert Wilders copying almost the exact video message that Australia published on border control has appeared on John Oliver's US show. - Autoplay On [Off](#) - [Video feedback](#) - [Video settings](#)**

Twitter: [Paul Sheehan](#)

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[Follow Paul on Twitter](#)

<http://www.theage.com.au/comment/malcolm-turnbulls-government-is-running-scared-from-the-freedom-to-offend-20151007-qk3j32.html>



Fans present a large banner reading 'Say it loud, say it clear. Refugees are welcome here' during the soccer test match between second division club of FC St. Pauli and first division club Borussia Dortmund in Hamburg on Sept. 8. (Daniel Bockwoldt/AP)

The refugee crisis could actually be a boon for Germany

By [Anthony Faiola](#), *The Washington Post*, September 10, 2015

BERLIN — The rest of Europe may see a crisis as a record number of asylum seekers flood the continent from Syria and other pockets of conflict and poverty. But Germany — the region's economic powerhouse — is also sensing a golden opportunity.

This fast-graying nation of 81 million is facing a demographic time bomb. With a morbidly low birthrate and a flat-lining population, hundreds of schools have already been shuttered. Some neighborhoods, particularly in the increasingly vacant east, have become ghost towns. For Germans, it has raised a

serious question: Who will build the Volkswagens and Mercedes of tomorrow?

Enter a record wave of migrants.

Offering some of the most generous terms of asylum, Germany has become by far the biggest host in Europe for those fleeing dangerous and deteriorating conditions, with more than 800,000 applications expected this year alone. With no sign of the crisis abating as war rages in Syria and Iraq, German leaders are saying they "can cope" with 500,000 more newcomers a year for "several years."

Chancellor Angela Merkel, meanwhile, is preparing her public for a period of transformation that may alter the very definition of what it means to be a German. [Some leaders in the region](#) are sounding the alarm over the threat to national identities posed by the mostly Muslim newcomers. But Merkel is cajoling Germans to embrace a new vision of their country that, in the future, may not be as white or Christian as it is today.

Primary migration routes into Europe



[\[E.U. leader proposes plan to redistribute migrants across continent\]](#)

In a now-viral video, Merkel last week addressed a woman who expressed fear that refugees would bring more Islamist terror. Merkel took a deep breath before replying, "Fear is a bad adviser."

On Thursday, Merkel visited a Berlin refugee processing center and "welcome class" for migrant children, taking selfies with migrants and calling for fast integration, more rapid processing times and jobs for those offered asylum.

Addressing parliament Wednesday, she said of the newcomers: "They need help to learn German, and they should find a job quickly. Many of them will become new citizens of our country." She added: "If we do it well, this will bring more opportunities than risks."

Merkel isn't the only one being pragmatic, with industrial leaders here heralding the flood of working-age migrants. Some German universities are opening their doors to allow refugees to audit classes for free. The government is offering welcome classes teaching German to migrant children and adults.

Germany is rolling out the welcome mat as its unemployment rate has fallen to 6.2 percent — one of the lowest in Europe. Trade and service companies — from caterers to plumbing firms — are struggling to find new workers, with more than 37,000 trainee positions unfilled, according to the Federal Employment Agency.

Couple that with that fact that many of the asylum seekers — especially Syrians — are highly educated or skilled workers and include doctors, engineers and architects. And suddenly, for Germany, some say, what initially seems like a crisis becomes something else.

Migrants' desperate quest to cross into Europe



More than 332,000 people have reached Europe this year.

"As the asylum seekers are fairly well qualified, there is a good chance they will become valuable parts of our workforce in the coming years," said Reiner Klingholz, director of the Berlin Institute for Population and Development. "We won't reverse our population loss, but we could shrink less."

'This is our chance'

Without doubt, the asylum seekers now represent a financial burden — one set to cost this nation billions in housing and other aid. But in the long run, experts predict, many of them will stay and build new lives in Germany rather than return home. In a country projected to shrink by 13.2 million people by 2060, the newcomers could help Germany confront its long-term battle with population decline.

At least that's the view of Oliver Junk, the mayor of Goslar, a town of 50,000 in north-central Germany lined with adorable timber-framed houses. Suffering from a net population loss of 4,000 since 2002, in recent years, he said, Goslar has had to shut three schools and is now sprinkled with the "occasional empty house."

[\[For six migrants, Europe offers 'last hope'\]](#)

But over the past two years, Goslar has also taken in almost 300 asylum seekers. Initially, the newcomers have no choice but to stay — government officials assign them to cities and towns where they must remain as their applications are evaluated. But those who win asylum eventually win the right to move — and Junk said his city is weighing a number of new programs to persuade them to stay, including a jobs network linking the newcomers with local employers.

"We want to create the opportunity for them to stay here and not move on to the big cities," he said. "This is our chance." Or not.

Analysts say it may be incredibly difficult for towns losing population, like Goslar, to keep the asylum seekers who are already there — with a rush expected to the big employment centers of Germany in booming Bavaria, as well as big cities such as Hamburg and Cologne.

Hassan Nabhea, 28, a medical student from Damascus, arrived in Goslar 18 months ago after claiming asylum. He has stayed, he says, to take German classes in a peaceful, beautiful town. But he's likely to move on in October, perhaps to Bonn, to enter a university.

"I like it here, and I like the people, but it's hard to think that I'll come back after I finish my German language classes," he said.

A new promised land

The surge of asylum seekers is coming at a time when booming Germany has emerged as a new [promised land for immigrants](#), particularly from economically troubled southern European nations, including Greece, Italy and Spain, but also countries as far away as Israel and India. In the rankings of the globe's most prosperous nations, Germany in 2012 leapfrogged Canada and Britain to become the largest destination for immigrants after the United States, according to the Paris-based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Many cite the still-insular pockets of Turks who moved to Germany in droves during the 1960s and 1970s as evidence that full integration will be hard and could take generations. In

addition, the reception toward asylum seekers in the former communist east — the part of Germany where depopulation is happening most — has also been the least welcoming. The region has become the epicenter for a rash of far-right violence aimed at refugees, including a series of arson attacks at refugee centers.

[\[Pope calls on Europe's Catholics to take in refugees\]](#)

In the blighted Marzahn neighborhood of eastern Berlin on Wednesday, asylum seekers Arslan Ali, 24, and Waleed Asif, 19, were strolling down a grid of sidewalks also being used by several older Germans using walkers. A group of young migrant children giggled on the playground of a nearby refugee center, but the men said not every day has been so carefree.

Asif — a Pakistani man who crossed into Germany in March and who said he is claiming asylum because his life was threatened by criminals back home — told of being attacked in a convenience store here. He said he was struggling to speak German — a language he is studying daily — when an angry local man head-butted him. The jolt, he said, sent him sprawling.

"No, not everyone here is nice," he said.

And yet, although acceptance rates are low in Germany for asylum seekers like them, from countries not at war, both men are hoping to cash in on the German dream. "I want to work for Siemens!" Asif said.

"I would love to one day work for Mercedes or BMW," Ali chimed in.

Stephanie Kirchner contributed to this report.

Read more

[Hungarian bishop says pope is wrong about refugees](#)
[The Mediterranean is now a graveyard for refugees](#)
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'MUSLIM REFUGEES': Overrun Hospital, Stab Doctors and Yet NO MEDIA COVERAGE

Posted on October 9, 2015

When will the media cover this story about their 'innocent' Muslim refugees? Never, probably.



We will return to the topic of the migrants because I have another letter here regarding the effect of immigrants on the everyday flow of operations. Eyewitness from a Munich hospital:

A friend in Prague has a friend, who, as a retired physician, had returned to work at a Munich area hospital where they needed an anaesthesiologist. I correspond with her and she forwarded me her email. Yesterday, at the hospital we had a meeting about how the situation here and at the other Munich hospitals is unsustainable. Clinics cannot handle emergencies, so they are starting to send everything to the hospitals.

Many Muslims are refusing treatment by female staff and, we, women, are refusing to go among those animals, especially from Africa. Relations between the staff and migrants are going from bad to worse. Since last weekend, migrants going to the hospitals must be accompanied by police with K-9 units.

Many migrants have AIDS, syphilis, open TB and many exotic diseases that we, in Europe, do not know how to treat them. If they receive a prescription in the pharmacy, they learn they have to pay cash. This leads to unbelievable outbursts, especially when it is about drugs for the children. They abandon the children with pharmacy staff with the words: "So, cure them

here yourselves!" So the police are not just guarding the clinics and hospitals, but also large pharmacies.

Truly we said openly: Where are all those who had welcomed in front of TV cameras, with signs at train stations?! Yes, for now, the border has been closed, but a million of them are already here and we will definitely not be able to get rid of them.

Until now, the number of unemployed in Germany was 2.2 million. Now it will be at least 3.5 million. Most of these people are completely unemployable. A bare minimum of them have any education. What is more, their women usually do not work at all. I estimate that one in ten is pregnant. Hundreds of thousands of them have brought along infants and little kids under six, many emaciated and neglected. If this continues and German re-opens its borders, I'm going home to the Czech Republic. Nobody can keep me here in this situation, not even double the salary than at home. I went to Germany, not to Africa or the Middle East.

Even the professor who heads our department told us how sad it makes him to see the cleaning woman, who for 800 Euros cleans every day for years, and then meets young men in the hallways who just wait with their hand outstretched, want everything for free, and when they don't get it they throw a fit.

I really don't need this! But I'm afraid that if I return, that at some point it will be the same in the Czech Republic. If the Germans, with their nature cannot handle this, there in Czechia it would be total chaos. Nobody who has not come in contact with them has no idea what kind of animals they are, especially the ones from Africa, and how Muslims act superior to our staff, regarding their religious accommodation.

For now, the local hospital staff has not come down with the diseases they brought here, but, with so many hundreds of patients every day — this is just a question of time.

In a hospital near the Rhine, migrants attacked the staff with knives after they had handed over an 8-month-old on the brink of death, which they had dragged across half of Europe for three months. The child died in two days, despite having received top care at one of the best pediatric clinics in Germany. The physician had to undergo surgery and two nurses are laid up in the ICU. Nobody has been punished.

The local press is forbidden to write about it, so we know about it through email. What would have happened to a German if he had stabbed a doctor and nurses with a knife? Or if he had flung his own syphilis-infected urine into a nurse's face and so threatened her with infection? At a minimum he'd go straight to jail and later to court. With these people – so far, nothing has happened.

And so I ask, where are all those greeters and receivers from the train stations? Sitting pretty at home, enjoying their non-profits and looking forward to more trains and their next batch

of cash from acting like greeters at the stations. If it were up to me I would round up all these greeters and bring them here first to our hospital's emergency ward, as attendants. Then, into one building with the migrants so they can look after them there themselves, without armed police, without police dogs who today are in every hospital here in Bavaria, and without medical help.

([The Right Scoop](#))

<http://clashdaily.com/2015/10/muslim-refugees-overrun-hospital-stab-doctors-and-yet-no-media-coverage/>



[Counterpunch](#)

The Use and Abuse of Culture – and Children:

The Human Terrain System's Rationalization of Pedophilia in Afghanistan

Posted by [Editor](#) on October 9, 2015 in [Culture & Religion](#), [News & Analysis](#), [World](#) | | [Leave a response](#)

By David Price – Roberto J. González

Over the past eight years, news reports gradually revealed that Afghan soldiers and police officers allied with US military forces are sexually abusing young boys held against their will—sometimes on US military bases. Last month, Joseph Goldstein (2015) published a front page story in the *New York Times* under the headline “US Soldiers Told to Ignore Sexual Abuse of Boys by Afghan Allies,” which opened with the disturbing story of Lance Corporal Gregory Buckley Jr., who was fatally shot along with two other Marines in 2012. Buckley was killed after he raised concerns about the American military's tolerance of child sexual abuse practiced by Afghan police officers on the base where he was stationed in southern Afghanistan. Buckley's father told the *Times* that “my son said that his officers told him to look the other way because it's their culture.”

The *Times* story provides the now standard boilerplate narrative that adult men having sex with young boys—some as young as twelve years old—exemplify a culture complex known as *bacha bazi*, or “boy play.” But it also includes vignettes of US soldiers walking into rooms of Afghan men bedded with young boys, a young teenage girl raped by a militia commander while working in the fields, and the story of a former Special Forces Captain, Dan Quinn, who was disciplined after beating an Afghan militia commander who was “keeping a boy chained to his bed as a sex slave” (Goldstein 2015). The article recounts a number of harsh disciplinary actions taken against other US soldiers and Marines who attempted to stop such abusive practices.

The military's position is that these are local cultural practices, like differences in dress, diet, or musical preferences, and American forces should look the other way and not interfere with these cultural differences. According to a recent report by Shane Harris (2015), Marines are offered little direction if they witness rape or other forms of sexual abuse by local people in other countries. Harris obtained a copy of training materials in which sexual assault is explicitly described as a “cultural” phenomenon in Afghanistan.

Perhaps such revelations were predictable. A decade ago, the counterinsurgency doctrine developed by General David Petraeus and his associates was lauded by supporters as a kinder, gentler way of conducting war. They embraced the idea that the local populations of Iraq and Afghanistan were the “center of gravity,” a fulcrum upon which the fate of the US led occupations rested. The doctrine, most clearly expressed in US Army Field Manual *Counterinsurgency: FM 3-24* (US Army 2007), required American forces to work with “host nation” allies (Iraqi tribal leaders in Anbar province, Afghan warlords opposed to the Taliban, etc.) whose beliefs and practices might be very

different from those of US troops. Neither *FM 3-24* nor any other doctrinal materials provided guidance for dealing with allies who regularly violated basic principles of human rights—or of human dignity for that matter. To make matters worse, the Petraeus doctrine clearly functioned in a top-down manner: soldiers and Marines were expected to set aside their better judgment and experience in order to conform to the demands of the new counterinsurgency.

What makes this topic somewhat tricky is the obvious fact that cultural beliefs and practices vary dramatically from one culture to another. A custom that is considered taboo in one place may be widely accepted or even encouraged elsewhere. Among the most significant contributions made by 20th century anthropologists was the idea of cultural relativism—the notion that each society should be viewed within its particular context, or understood on its own terms. But, as we discuss below, cultural relativism is not the same thing as moral relativism. There has been a surprising lack of inquiry into how American military officials who were obsessed with “cultural awareness” came to accept practices in which unwilling children were taken by Afghan police and militia leaders for sexual gratification.

Rationalizing Child Abuse

While much of this story remains unknown, there is some evidence that the US Army's Human Terrain System (HTS) played a role in rationalizing pedophilia in Afghanistan, both within military circles and in the popular media's discourse supporting the establishment of these policies. *CounterPunch* readers may remember HTS as an experimental and controversial counterinsurgency program that embedded social scientists with combat brigades in Iraq and Afghanistan. During its eight years of existence, the program cost tax payers more than \$720 million, making it the most expensive social science project in history. It was fraught with ethical problems and was even condemned in 2007 by the American Anthropological Association. Earlier this year, one of us discovered that the Army quietly shelved the program in 2014 following accusations of fraud, mismanagement, and waste (González 2015).

An early public acknowledgment of the abusive practices of the US's Afghan allies—and of American military anthropologists encouraging military acceptance of Afghan men having sex with boys—occurred on October 10, 2007 on a radio broadcast of *The Diane Rehm Show*. In an interview, HTS's Senior Social Science Advisor Montgomery McFate provided an account of how Human Terrain Teams had helped a US battalion accept these “cultural differences.” McFate (who holds a Ph.D. in anthropology from Yale University) said that HTS had raised intercultural awareness

and acceptance of something she referred to as the NAMBLA-like sounding "Man-Boy Love Thursday." She recounted this as a "humorous" story illustrating the role of Human Terrain Teams in establishing military interactions with local populations:

"I'm just laughing, because anthropologists are great believers in reflectivity and in understanding your own biases, and sometimes it can be somewhat challenging and humorous to try to teach those perspectives to the military. And I'll just give one example from Afghanistan, which is that on the Forward Operating Base it was a common practice on Thursday afternoons for some of the older men to go off with some of the younger boys for a little hanky-panky in the bushes. And the Brigade asked the Human Terrain members: 'what's up with Man-Boy Love Thursday—what is going on?' And, you know, essentially the Brigade's view was 'we need to put a stop to this because it was wrong, it was [in a laughing voice] wrong, it, you know, violates our notion of what's appropriate.'

And the Human Terrain Team members said, 'you know, actually that's part of Afghan culture and there's not really much you can do about it. If you don't like it, you can't stop it. It's just part of what they are. Don't try and impose your values on the people you're working with because you're not going to change them.' So [that's] somewhat a humorous example." (McFate quoted in **"Anthropologists and War"** 2007).

McFate's public persona was that of a bohemian counterculturalist, and her indifferent depiction appears to have influenced rapt US military officials who began to view rampant pedophilia as little more than a cultural oddity. McFate's glib summary of "Man-Boy Love Thursday" stands as an example of what happens when anthropology is stripped of its ethics for the sake of convenience. By peddling this cheap, tawdry version of social science for military consumption, McFate told her sponsors and the general public that anthropology could serve a useful role in the age of American Empire by simplifying the moral complications of invasion and occupation.

While the *New York Times* now deserves some credit for focusing critical attention on the current manifestation of "Man-Boy Love Thursdays," for years, the newspaper played an essential role in portraying HTS in glowing terms. In 2007, the *Times* ran a sympathetic front-page story in which HTS's supporters described the program as effective and even "brilliant" (Rohde 2007). The corporate media largely ignored critics of the program. Later that year, the *Times* followed up its feature story with an op-ed piece lauding HTS, as University of Chicago anthropologist Richard Shweder praised McFate's program, writing, "Ms. McFate stressed her success at getting American soldiers to stop making moral judgments about a local Afghan cultural practice in which older men go off with younger boys on 'love Thursdays' and do some 'hanky-panky.' 'Stop imposing your values on others,' was the message for the American soldiers. She was way beyond 'don't ask, don't tell,' and I found it heartwarming" (Shweder 2007). Shweder did not fully understand what sort of program of cultural acceptance he found heartwarming, yet his ignorance helped HTS gain the public legitimacy it needed at a crucial moment when anthropologists who were critical of HTS found it impossible to be heard by the *Times*'s editorial board.

Turning a Blind Eye

Between 2009 and 2011, the US military created a situation in which official reports and documents effectively portrayed the sexual exploitation of children as a natural and acceptable part of Afghan culture.

In 2009 an unclassified Human Terrain Team report on "Pashtun Sexuality" was released to the public. The report, authored by AnnaMaria Cardinali (who holds a Ph.D. in theology from Notre Dame University), argues that a vast number of Afghan men practice "a culturally-contrived homosexuality," particularly with boys, which can be partly explained by "a long-standing cultural

tradition in which boys are appreciated for physical beauty and apprenticed to older men for their sexual initiation" (Cardinali 2009: 1,2). Cardinali's report suggests that US military personnel need to understand such dynamics as "an essential social force underlying Pashtun culture," and although it acknowledges that these practices may involve "a great imbalance of power and/or authority to the disadvantage of the boy involved," it casts doubt on "whether this can rightly be termed abusive when seen through a lens from within the culture" (Cardinali 2009: 2).

Two years later, in 2011, the Army released a draft training handbook which explicitly advised US personnel to ignore abuses perpetrated by Afghan security officers. The handbook, entitled "A Crisis of Trust and Cultural Incompatibility," was written by Major Jeffrey Bordin (2011). According to his LinkedIn page, Bordin has a Ph.D. in psychology and holds a "Human Terrain Team Leader" certification from the Army's Training and Doctrine Command (LinkedIn 2015). The draft handbook includes a list of "taboo conversation topics" that American soldiers should avoid, including "any criticism of pedophilia" and "mentioning homosexuality and homosexual conduct." Like Cardinali, Bordin downplays child abuse as a cultural quirk. The handbook states: "Bottom line: Troops may experience social-cultural shock and/or discomfort when interacting [with Afghan security forces]. . . Better situational awareness/understanding of Afghan culture will help better prepare [American troops] to more effectively partner and to avoid cultural conflict" (Bordin quoted in Nissenbaum 2011).

It is remarkable that HTS's justifications of pederasty provoked so little media attention. By contrast, military narratives of the mistreatment of Afghan women by the Taliban were routinely recycled by a willing press after 2001, and many Americans came to believe that Afghan women needed to be saved from their own men. Curiously, US news organizations have largely ignored the mistreatment of women in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, or Pakistan—close allies of the United States.

In fact, Human Terrain Team analyses fit the preconceived off-the-shelf Orientalist stereotypes of Islamic societies critically dissected by the late Edward Said. One need look no further than the cover of Said's *Orientalism*. It features Jean-Léon Gérôme's painting *The Snake Charmer*, a romanticized portrayal of a nude boy dancing before tribal elders. The image neatly aligns with long-standing European notions of Oriental exoticism. (It is striking that European and American critics of pederasty often ignore the fact that it was practiced in the West for centuries—most famously in ancient Greece and Rome. Some suggest that the practice may have been introduced to Central Asia during the period of Alexander the Great, long before the arrival of Islam.) The "anthropological" information provided to the military by HTS frequently stressed such exoticism, while ignoring centuries of contact with the West, legacies of European colonialism, and the inequities of power relations that most anthropological analyses would address.

In any event, the reports by Cardinali and Bordin were entirely consistent with the nonchalant attitude expressed by Montgomery McFate. In 2010, documentary film maker Adam Curtis (2010) blogged about a conversation he had with McFate. When Curtis asked her what she thought anthropology could provide to the military, she answered, "cultural relativism." To illustrate, she told him about "Man-Boy Love Thursday," saying: **"The Americans running the base had decided it was wrong. They worried about elder men preying sexually on young boys. They wanted to arrest the Afghan men—but the Human Terrain team persuaded the base commanders that this was an accepted part of Afghan sexual culture. I wonder how long it will be before the anthropologists start telling the military that what they think of as 'corruption' is in reality a deeply rooted system of tribal patronage in Afghanistan that they should accept."** (Curtis 2010)

Curtis was clearly disturbed by her response.

Cultural Relativism is Not Moral Relativism

The comments of McFate and other former HTS personnel such as Cardinali and Bordin reveal a profound misunderstanding of anthropology—and of Afghan society. Perhaps the biggest problem is that the ideas expressed by Human Terrain Team members betray a basic misunderstanding about the differences between cultural relativism and moral relativism. The first is a basic anthropological recognition that all cultures have distinct beliefs and behaviors that are seen by members of the cultural as normal and proper. Given the universality of this arrangement anthropologists use cultural relativism to understand cultural differences in their own terms.

But moral relativism is another thing altogether. Moral relativism moves beyond the acknowledgment of cultural difference and refuses to engage with any evaluation of the morality of practices. In this context, pedophilia in contemporary Afghanistan cannot be separated from the American military's presence there, as HTS's pseudo-philosophers maintain. By adopting a position of moral relativism, the Human Terrain System pretends to remove itself and the US military from responsibility for these abusive acts occurring on American military bases. One can only wonder why, as they reached this position of moral relativism, HTS's anthropologically-trained personnel blatantly disregarded the American Anthropological Association's commitment to the principles of international human rights (AAA 1999; see also Engle 2001). Interestingly, Afghanistan's president Ashraf Ghani—who holds a Ph.D. in anthropology from Columbia University—recently condemned the sexual abuse of children in his country and vowed to crack down on the abusers (Rosenberg 2015).

There are, of course, cultural differences in expressions of human sexuality. Indeed, the impacts of these cultural differences are significant, and include things like cultural constructions of acceptable sexual expressions, orientations, and consent. Culture's impact on these elements of sexuality are real and important. But what is vital and missing from such militarized social science analysis is a central acknowledgment of the political context generating these analyses. Like most other things created in a context of military invasion and occupation, the studying and reporting on sexuality occurs through a fog of war obscuring and permeating the operationalization and analysis of that which is studied. In such contexts, what might be normalized descriptions of variations in sexual behavior are transformed by power relations, and efforts to de-exoticize cultural differences in these contexts become counterinsurgency intelligence, used not only to understand and accept, but to understand and control. In Afghanistan, these conditions created a cascading escalation of events where HTS personnel provided the rationalization needed to transform American military facilities into areas where US-backed allies raped and brutalized screaming children. These dynamics of rationalization are not unique to this war. As anthropologist Marshall Sahlins observed half a century ago in his essay "The Destruction of Conscience in Vietnam," soldiers are often placed in a predicament where "all peripheral rationales fade into the background. It becomes a war of transcendent purpose, and in such a war all efforts on the side of Good are virtuous, and all deaths unfortunate necessity. The ends justify the means" (Sahlins 1966).

HTS's efforts to absolve American officials of responsibility or agency in these reports of abduction and child rape places US soldiers in an impossible position: they are asked to pretend that US protection and sheltering of those undertaking these acts does not make them morally culpable, even when they bear witness to sexual exploitation, coercion, and abuse. Perhaps there is no clearer indication of the Human Terrain System's moral bankruptcy than the second-hand effects of its reckless forms of "research," which have a real human cost. As Afghan children suffer the consequences of official indifference in the face of sexual abuse, American soldiers are haunted by the moral guilt of enforced complacency as they endure yet another lie about the US-led occupation of Afghanistan.

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